





PFC Gregory Fishburn, a medic with the 520th ASMC, Lewis, Wash., examines a soldier during sick call. For more, turn to Page 2

Soldiers

deploy

to NTC

By Steven Cooke

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - Ele-

ments of the 1st Brigade Combat Team gathered nightly at Craig Fitness Center on Fort Riley last

week as they departed for their National Training Center rotation. The soldiers made their final checks as they prepared to board the aircraft headed west. At the fitness center, soldiers loaded their bags onto trucks to be taken to the airport. They had their identification cards scanned and their bodies weighed with their carry-on luggage for a cargo weight estimate. The estimates were sent to the movement control center so they would know how many soldiers and how much equipment can be sent on the

Waiting for the final call, the soldiers were also treated to coffee and cream of mushroom soup. While waiting for the buses to arrive, soldiers discussed their last

"I'm not really nervous," said PFC Nancy Penn, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Combat Team. "I am a little nervous about bugs and snakes and coyotes, but I'm expecting lots of training. I'm really ready to train."
"I'm not looking forward to the sand and sun," said Spec. David Burgess 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery. "This is my first time going to NTC. Hopefully, it's

For some soldiers, it was Friday night's stormy weather that

Just a few hours before arriving at the fitness center, storms of hail, rain and freezing winds swept across Fort Riley.
"Last time, we went we had weather like this and the plane dropped 1,000 feet suddenly," said PFC Rafael Delgato, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery. "That's what going through my mind now. I'm a little nervous." However, going to NTC is no sweat for Delgato, who went to

"I feel more confident than my first time," he said. "I know what

"It was a good experience,"

to expect. What it's going to be.

said Delgato. "I received three

awards while I was there as recog-

nition for my work with my bat-

Delgato said he received the Order of the Wolf, Desert Hero

award and the Army Commenda-

19th PAD

flight.

minute feelings.

good training."

NTC last year.

had them worried.

March 15, 2002

Proudly serving the Home of America's Army

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Right- A soldier from the 70th Engineer Battalion clears a suspected mine field.

Bottom- A squad of soldiers from 70th Eng. Bn. runs through a cleared pathway with a Bangalore Torpedo used to breech obstacles.



Fire In The Hole



70th Engineer Battalion conducts qualification tables

By Kevin Doheny

Staff Writer

Familiarity. It's a key component when soldiers head to the field for training.

For the 70th Engineer Battalion, their precision in their jobs is what they strive for when out in the field.

'Familiarization is the key," said SFC Chad Steckler, range safety noncommissioned officer in charge. "We try to reiterate everything during the inert lanes, so when we go through the live-fire qualifications, the soldiers know what to do."

He said that they need to be able to work together as a unit from one level to another. A squad must work together

develop teamwork and complete confithemselves," said Lt. Col. Bjarne Iverson, battalion commander. "From my perspective, this is where I tell the Maneuver work for, that they are ready and able to do what they need to do to accomplish land mines. their combat missions."

The 70th's main focus for these exer-ses were to be trained and qualified in

Steckler also said with each level of cises were to be trained and qualified in their Engineer Qualification Tables. which rounds out with Table XII.

with a platoon, and the platoon must their live fire day and night training," said fident they can continue, then they com-

with a platoon, and the platoon that work together with a company and so on. Steckler.

"They practice maneuverability, es mounting and once they hit range six then dence in their equipment, teammates and they go into dismounted fire, which they alternate controls of fire, their line main make sure each individual soldier is situdrills and placements of the bangalore torpedo, which is a metal pipe filled with posed to be," said Steckler. Task Force Commander, who they will an explosive, primarily used to clear a path through barbed wire or to detonate

Once that is complete, then they go

training, the training takes on more responsibility.

"The squads go through their inert lanes and during Lane 6, they go through level exercises, and their leaders are con-Once the soldiers finish their squad combat ready soldiers strive to do.

bine the squads for platoon level exercis-

"During the 10-day exercise, the only way we can accomplish the mission is to ational safe by knowing where he is sup-

Iverson said his soldiers are the best at what they do, and they do their jobs proficiently to accomplish their missions.

to work together as a team are all important aspects of the training, which these

tion Medal. It seems though the weather is not something Delgato can make "Individually they are good too," he sense of. "The weather there is funny. Familiarization, confidence and ability One day it's hot. The next day it's

But once in the air and on their

way west, all fears and expectations would have to be put on hold. The main focus had become the trip and getting everyone to Fort Irwin. After a quick bus ride to the

airport and a two hour airplane ride, the soldiers landed in Victorville, Calif. In Army style, soldiers were picked for luggage details, taking luggage off the plane and onto trucks for trans-

Once the luggage had been taken care of, it was time to head

By this time, it was 4 a.m. local time. Soldiers were tired and jet lagged, not only reeling from the trip, but the two-hour time change

NTC exercise underway

1st Brigade soldiers ship duffle bags to desert By Jeremy Heckler 19th PAD

and equipment forward so they would be waiting for them when they landed later in the week.

packing list before they depart so said SSgt. Steven Hill, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor.

"We pack everything but the kitchen sink in our bags." said 1st items, many soldiers pack additional items designed to make the what they need and what they

parking lot, they were put into the truck that would send them west. Soldiers formed a human chain and tossed duffel bags into the

A small sea of green bags filled

March 15, 2002

Fort Lewis based medical assets taking care of 1st BCT

'By Steven Cooke

19th PAD

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - While at he National Training Center, solliers' health and well being are najor concerns. Providing medcal attention to assure this is the 520th Area Support Medical Company from Fort Lewis, Washngton.
"We're capable of treating

verything from a minor cut to a gunshot wound," said Sgt. Rodiey Johnson, treatment noncomnissioned officer in charge.

Since coming out on Tuesday, ick call has had a steady stream of patients.

'It's been non-stop," said Johnon. "We mostly see colds and the lu as well as safety issues like uts and bruises.'

The field hospital handles a rariety of illnesses and injuries in ddition to sick call.

If any soldier needs extended reatment, blood work, or an X-Ray they are sent to on post hospital facilities.

The staff that operates the sick all tent does not get much sleep out here, but they love what they

"It's a pleasure to know that vhat you do has an impact on peoples lives," said Spec. Kevin Leverland, medic. "Like whether

they make it to the next day."
"I think it's fun," said Spec.
Shameka Henson, medic. "We get to get back to old style. Back to basics.

"The best thing about being out here is I actually get to do my job," said PFC Nadirah Malone, medic. "It's great doing my job out

here," said PFC Roxanne Oviedo, medic. "It's one of the few times I actually get to do my job." "The opportunity to do medical work is rare back at the company,

explained Leverland. "We only get to do medical proficiency training at the hospital.' 'We're actually doing sick call

out here," said Henson. "It's a good experience. At the

company, not everyone gets to work in the Troop Medical Clin-

Aside from the good training, working in the field poses some challenges.

"We have to have everything set up within four hours from the time we arrive," said Johnson. "A big challenge is keeping everything organized. Watching expiration dates on medication and watching inventory.'

makes it more difficult to keep things clean," said Leverland.

'The biggest challenge is all.

learning how to work together,"

said Oviedo.
"We're living and working together for a period of time.'

A major lesson Oviedo has learned since being out here is how fast disease can spread.

The medics offered a few tips to ensure everyone stays healthy.

"Stay hydrated," warned Johnson. "Being out here takes a toll on the body.'

"Wear loose clothing," recommended Henson. "Don't sleep in a whole lot of clothes either.'

"Powder you feet to keep them dry," said Malone. "And put Vaseline in your nose to keep it moist."

In addition to daily preventative medicine each deployed soldier can do individually they added these tips for performing work in the field.

"Be alert," advised Oviedo.
"We treat a lot of finger injuries from hatches coming down on fingers."

'Keep an eye on your buddy,' offered Leverland.

Leverland also looks at his job from a different angle. "We're not just taking care of patient's wounds," he said.

"But also their moral and spir-'Sand gets in everything and it. By telling them it's O.K., talking to them, they're more willing to go back out there and give their



Capt. Yuri Rivera, a physician assistant with the 520th Area Support Medical Company, Fort Lewis, Wash., examines a soldier visiting sick call at NTC.

Equipment draw taking place at NTC, inspections vital

By Jeremy Heckler

19th PAD

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - The 1st 3rigade Combat Team augmented heir armada of vehicles from the National Training Center this veek and equipped them for com-

The Devil Brigade drew preositioned vehicles from the draw rard so that they will be ready to

"These vehicles just came off of the 4th Infantry Division's rotaion and the contractor staged hem on the line for us to use," aid 1st Lt. Thomas Swint, Headjuarters and Headquarters Comany, 1st Brigade Combat Team executive officer.

"We got some of the better trucks out here," said Spec. said Spec. Nicholas Jackson, HHC, 1st BCT, mechanic.

Operators and mechanics took on the process of inspecting vehicles, ensuring their readiness for the rotation.

They follow a 13-page checklist that covers every aspect of the vehicle at both the operator repair level and the mechanic repair

"It's done to the 10/20 standard because of the desert environment," said Swint. "Sometimes that means we have to replace parts a little sooner."

In addition to the work of the soldiers, the contractors who

in the process and fix any problems that may arise.

"Everyone, including the civilsure we keep things running smoothly," said Jackson.

After completing the checklist, the drivers take the vehicle out on the test track.

They ensure that everything inspected in the draw yard functions out on the road.

After the test ride, another set of mechanics perform a final inspection before they can drive off. They notate each deficiency on the vehicle's paperwork. Once they leave the draw yard, any-

maintain the vehicles participate thing that breaks the unit is tion. responsible for when they turn it

"I tell soldiers to make sure ians are working together to make that they are content with their vehicle and their equipment and not say, 'I can live with that,' because it's going to come back and bite you," said Swint.

All of the detail required to take out vehicles is designed to make turn in easier.

"A lot of times regeneration is lot more emotional because you're trying to go home and you start to see the civilian contractors as adversaries," said Swint.

The first step to ensuring a smooth turn-in is a proper inspec-

Once the vehicles leave the yard, mechanics place a high priority on proper maintenance.

'We want to PMCS until they time.'

can't PMCS anymore," said Jackson. "They need to think about what they are doing, take things slowly and do it right the first

ABATE OF KANSAS DISTRICT #4 2 x 2" Black Only Motorcycle Show

SET 2 x 5.5" Black Only new times

LITTLE APPLE TOYOTA HONDA 4 x 11" Black Only Little apple with big crushing

KANSAS WIRELESS 2 x 5"

Black Only Kansas Wireless(w/Man.address)

Dust Bowl home for weary 1st BCT soldiers

By Jeremy Heckler

19th PAD

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - The Dust Bowl stands as an oasis from veary Mojavia, a place for both soldiers to regroup and rest as they tand poised for battle.

While the draw yards and assembly areas form the staging area of he 1st Brigade Combat Team, the Dust Bowl provides a variety of serrices designed to meet the needs of soldiers.

The first image soldiers see upon arriving in the Dust Bowl are the ows of shelters and tents that house the members of the Big Red One or the first and the last week. A small city arises from the settlements, is units set down roots. Each unit has their guidon, the unit flag, flyng in the breeze, designating their neighborhood. Twice daily, soldiers ntermingle during chow call, as well as during a relaxing game of ards or dominoes that spring up around the camp. For those seeking other forms of entertainment, NTC happily obliges.

One of the first destinations for soldiers is one of the three phone enters in the Dust Bowl.

"We have over 100 booths here that give soldiers the freedom to call iome," said Spec. John Graber, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor. Graber monitors the pay phone cener, managing lines and ensuring that every customer follows the rules.

"Our biggest rule is that soldiers keep their feet on the ground," said

"Our biggest rule is that soldiers keep their feet on the ground." Spec. John Graber

Graber. He said that he walks around with window cleaner and makes offenders clean the stall.

Graber said that early in the rotation he had more than enough pay phones for soldiers. As those numbers grew, lines started to grow and nake away from the facility.

In addition to the pay phone center, members of the Devil Brigade an also take advantage of two military communication centers that, or a small fee, provide internet and phone services for soldiers, allowng another avenue to the home front.

Further down the block stands a brand-new Troop Store. The store offers a variety of goods, from things that soldiers forgot to bring, to uxury items for the field, such as folding chairs and a healthy supply of "pogy" bait, cookies, chips and other goodies.

For the soldiers who tire of a healthy diet or mess tent food and MREs, there is the Soldier's Shade. The Soldier's Shade offers a snack par providing fast food, pool tables and video games as a place to

This gives soldiers an opportunity to eat food and watch some telerision," said PFC Mike Fellman, HHC 1st Bn., 34th Armor. He said hat everyone in the facility had their eyes glued to college basketball luring conference tournament time.

In addition to the rest areas, the Dust Bowl also contains laundry acilities so soldier's can keep their clothes clean.

While the tempo slowly increases for these desert warriors, the eisure facilities provide a welcome respite.

"This is a good place to relax before you start doing all of the hard vork that needs to be done," said Spec. Walter Astudillo, 101st Forvard Support Battalion, Maintenance Support Team. He said that he pends most of his time in the Dust Bowl reading books and playing Spades with other members of his team.

"This is only time I have to really get into a book because at home here can be a lot more distractions," said Astudillo.

By Kevin Doheny here before I retire April 3.' As a soldier progresses through

Along with taking care of sol-

During a recent visit to Fort Riley, CSM Dennis Webster, III Corps command sergeant major,

talked with soldiers here.
"As the III Corps CSM, I try to visit all the installations in III Corps whenever possible," said Webster. "This is the last chance I will have to visit with the soldiers

Webster, who was stationed at Fort Riley in 1974 and 1975, said he has tackled many issues as the III Corps CSM.

"I make sure I deal with the issues, which deal with the care of soldiers first and foremost," said Webster. "Whether it is training, or in the well-being area, I think it is probably the most important thing I deal with."

Webster also said he believes Fort Riley is an excellent installation and offers a lot for its sol-

"This was one of the places I wanted to go when I left the follow orders, to train hard, and to sergeants major academy," he said. "Fort Riley is a great area to soldier. It has great training areas, and the people of Kansas are good people. Also, it has some great opportunities for outdoor recre-

area for families — a good area to soldier. It has good leaders, all the good things, which draw a soldier to an installation."

Riley, he visited with many soldiers, and he said he has a mes-

"I encourage young soldiers to try to learn as much as they can about what their tasks are in combat," he said. "It's my opinion that we as leaders should not send soldiers in to harms way untrained.

"A big part of the training responsibility falls on the individual soldier. I always encourage young soldiers to tell their sergeants when they are not comfortable with the training when they are unsure whether or not if they have got it or not. If during training, they fight their toughest foes there, then they can't ever be defeated," he said.



Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team arrive at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., where they will

participate in several weeks of desert training. The soldiers from the Devil Brigade moved into the Dust Bowl where they will live for the first and last week while deployed at the NTC. The remainder of the time the soldiers will be in the field.

III Corps CSM visits Fort Riley

Staff Writer

the ranks, there is always one constant- taking care of other sol-

diers, getting feedback and being involved with soldiers is important in order to accomplish this mission.

ation. I really enjoyed my time in Kansas." Webster added, "It's a good

During Webster's stay at Fort sage for those soldiers to follow.

HOUSE ADS 6 x 10.5" Black Only service directory

Briefs

Areas Closed

Due to live fire training the folowing maneuver areas and roads re off limits to all personnel omorrow.

Maneuver \,B,C,D,E,F,H,I,K,L,M,O,P,Q.

b. Old Highway 77 from Range Control Headquarters orth to the town of Riley. c. Trainfire Road from Vinton

School Road north to Old Highvay 82.

d. Old Highway 82 from the own of Keats west to New Highvay 77.

e. Mallon (Engineer) Road rom Vinton School Road north to Old Highway 82.

Moms Club announced

MOMS Club of East Manhatan is a non-profit club designed or stay-at-home moms (or dads). t provides moms with an opporunity to interact with one another vhile their children participate in various daytime activities all nonth. Most events are for moms nd their children to participate in ogether during the day, while ome are especially for moms vith optional child-care available. Children are welcome at all activties. About one third of the memership consists of military wives tationed at Fort Riley. A monthy business meeting is held the hird Friday of each month at 9:30 .m. at First Christian Church (not iffiliated). Manhattan. Annual lues are \$18, but try it out without bligation. For more information, ontact Lisa Schwarz, (785)587-

Musical set

"Bow the Knee" a dramatic nusical for Easter by Chris Machen and Kimberly R. Messer vill be performed by members of he Junction City Church of the

Nazarene at 7 p.m. on March 9 and 30 at the Junction City High School Auditorium.

Contact the church office at '85-762-4402 for tickets or for urther information.

NAF job fairs set

The NAF personnel division vill sponsor job fairs at Riley's Conference Center on the followng dates:

March 20, Aug. 21, Sept. 18 Oct. 16 April 17 May 15 June 26 Nov. 13 July 24 Dec. 11

Applications will be accepted rom 9 - 9:45 a.m., for immediate racancies in Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities. Interviews vill begin at 10:15 a.m. with job offers made as selections are

Contact the Fort Riley CPAC NAF office at (785) 239-2325 for dditional information.

Job Fair planned

The Army Career and Alumni Program is sponsoring a Job Fair Junction City. rom 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., March 22 at he ACAP Center on main post, 3ldg. 210, Room 007, Custer Ave.

There will be local, national nd international employers preent to talk about their various job pportunities. Come by the ACAP Center to pick up a list of the employers invited to this Job Fair ind also pick up a list of the dates or future monthly Job Fairs. If ou are getting out within the next ix months - one year, this is the ight time. Come dressed for an nterview and have a resume in and. If you have not started on a esume, come anyway and then ontact the ACAP Center to start he Job Search Process. The Fort Riley ACAP Center is open 7:30 .m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, phone 239-2278 / 2068. Don't let nother ship pass you by, be in the ight place at the right time!

Asian Pacific Month Program

The Installation Equal Opporunity Office will sponsor Fort Riley's celebration of Asian Pacifc Heritage Month on May 8, at Riley's Conference Center from 1:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The theme for his year's observance is "Unity in reedom". Please join us as we

tion, please contact your Brigade Equal Opportunity Advisor or the Fort Riley EO Office at 239-2928.

Women's History Month Program

The Installation Equal Opportunity Office will sponsor Fort Riley's celebration of Women's History Month on March 20, at Riley's Conference Center from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The theme for this year's observance is "Women Sustaining the American Spirit". Please join us as we celebrate in remembrance of contributions made by Women. The program is free and open to all soldiers, their families, civilian employees, and the surrounding communities. For more information, please contact your Brigade Equal Opportunity Advisor or the Fort Riley EO Hawkins at (719) 510-4493. Office at 239-2928.

The Shoppe offers crafts

The Shoppe is getting ready for spring. There are new items arriving daily. Come visit the shoppe for your home decorating

Located in Bldg. 259 Stuart Ave. Phone 785-239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Commissary News

The Fort Riley Commissary will be having a Chill-Out case lot sale today from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. The commissary will be open normal shopping hours on Easter Sunday, March 31,11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

OCSC Spring Bazaar, Car Show

The Fort Riley Officers' and Civilian' Spouses' Club is spon-soring its annual Spring Bazaar April 6, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and April 7 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Marshall Army Air Field, Hangar

Come out and have a great day shopping and visiting with the community.

This year an added treat for all car buffs! There will be a car show April 6. Come out and see the Kansas Speed Way Pace Car and much more. Suggested donation for entry is \$1, for both events. Lots of food, fun and fantastic shopping for families and singles alike. Strollers welcome, but not pets please.

Open to the public.

To volunteer or make inquiries about the event call Amy at 565-

Easter Sunrise Service

The Fort Riley Community Easter Sunrise Service will be held at the Outdoor Chapel March 31 from 6:30-7:30 a.m. Morris Hill Chapel is the inclement weather site. Speaker for the service is Pastor Brad Dyrness from the Church of the Nazarene in

A breakfast brunch will be served after the service.

Thrift Shop News

The Fort Riley Thrift Shop is currently seeking furniture consignments and has also begun accepting spring clothing consignments.

The Thrift Shop is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Please call 784-3874 for more information. The Thrift Shop email address is thrift@ozonline.net, for customer questions or concerns.

Spring Carnival

Fort Riley Elementary School will host its Fort Riley Elementary Spring Carnival April 20, from 4-7 p.m. There will be refreshments, games, entertainment and many other activities. For ticket information call 784-

Community Action Council scheduled

The next Community Action

teer Recognition Ceremony has a.m. to 3 p.m. been scheduled for April 22, from 7-8:30 p.m. at Riley's Conference Center. The ceremony will kickoff Volunteer Recognition Week April 22-26.

Special Forces Visit

A Special Forces recruiter will be visiting Monday through March 22. Briefings will be held at the Post-Reup Bldg. 7626. Times are: 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. each day, with an additional brief at 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. The PT test will be conducted at Long track at 7 a.m., Wednesday, Thursday and March 22. Candidates will wear BDUs and running shoes.

For information, call SFC

Bowling Tournament

Custer Hill Lanes will host a St. Patrick's Bowling Tournament Sunday, from 2-6 p.m.

Entry fee per bowler is \$12.50. Sign-up and information on the tournament is available by calling 784-4868.

Vehicle Auction

The Directorate of Community Activities Morale, Welfare and Recreation will conduct its next Abandoned Vehicle Auction March 30, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Location for the auction will be Camp Funston near the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office Bldg. 1950 L Street.

Vehicles with trailers should enter the Camp Funston area at the 12th Street entrance off K-18. A public viewing of the vehicles is scheduled March 25-29 from 8

Riley's Easter Brunch

Riley's Conference Center will host an Easter Brunch, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 31. The brunch will feature a wide variety of breakfast and lunch selections. Prices are \$12.95 for adults, \$11.45 for retirees and seniors, \$7.95 for children six to 12 years old and free for children under six.

Easter Egg Hunt

Fort Riley will host its 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, March 31 on the grounds of Riley's Conference Center, Seitz and Huebner Drive, Main Post. The popular event gets underway at 1 p.m.

The Easter Egg Hunt features four age categories including children under two years old; two and three year old children; four and five year olds; and six, seven and eight year olds.More than 4,000 Easter eggs will be hidden in the rear area of Riley's in the four designated age group areas. There will also be special prize

Requests for Leave **Donations**

The Community Assistance Committee of OCSC is accepting requests for donations from Fort Riley organizations until Wednesday. Requests postmarked after that date will not be considered. Requests must be written and include the requesting organizations address, point of contact, phone number, the specific purpose of the funds, and the funds

required.

The OCSC will disburse the funds toward the end of April. Send all requests to: Officer's and Civilian' Spouses Club, Attn: Community Assistance Chair, P.O. Box 2482, Fort Riley, Kan. 66442.

Christian Musician Needed

The Contemporary Protestant Service that meets at Normandy Chapel needs a lead guitar player for their praise and worship band. The service meets on Sundays at 11 a.m.; practices are on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 10

If interested, call Chap. Paulson at 239-3436, if there is no answer, please leave a message.

Couples Classes

Want to make a good marriage better? Want to better understand your spouse? Want to have your spouse better understand you?

Come learn how to deal with misunderstandings, and how to stop the argument cycle at the monthly Marriage Enrichment Class Tuesday at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Rm. 29 from 6-8 p.m. Free child care will be provided.

To register call 239-3436 by

close of business March 15.

Combined Scholarships

Scholarships are now available for spouses, graduating high school seniors and college students of any active duty, retired, or deceased military member from the greater Fort Riley community. Applicants must have a

valid ID card and scholarships will only be awarded for undergraduate programs or vocational schooling.

Applications may be picked up at the Junction City, St. Francis Xavier, or Manhattan High School Guidance Counselor's office, Fort Riley Thrift Shop, The Shoppe, or The Soldier and Family Support Center or applications can be downloaded from our webwww.ftrileyscholar.com Scholarships will be awarded in May.

Application deadline is April 5, 2002. For questions, call Dee Hayhurst at (785) 587-1933.

Officials Needed

The Fort Riley Sports Office is looking for officials for the sports of Soccer and Volleyball.

Anyone interested in officiating either of these sports should contact Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.

AFTB Classes

Upcoming Army Family Team Building Class is: March 27 at 6:30 p.m., at Bldg. 7264. This class is open to all soldiers, family members, retirees and civilian workers.

Call to register ahead of time so that there are enough materials/handouts prepared.

For class topics, registration and information call Becky Willis at 239-9435.

USO Show

Anthony Middle School is hosting a USO-type show Thursday at 7 p.m. Donations of \$1

See More Briefs Page 5

FIRST NATIONAL BANK - JC 4 x 2" Black Only

THE MARTIN AGENCY 4 x 10"

see schedule

Alltel

Black Only

More Briefs

eccepted at the door will raise Dance music Saturday nights will Chapel on Main Post. noney for a local emergency serrices organization. The show is eing put on in honor of military, police, fire and emergency serrices workers who support our ountry each day. Current and vetran members of these profesions are encouraged to attend and vill be recognized during the program. Anthony Middle School is ocated at 2501 Browning Avenue, Manhattan, Kan. For nformation, call 785-587-2890.

Sports USA Music Weekly

Sports USA will begin offering veekly music theme nights begining tonight. Dance music Friday lights will transition to the Latin transition to the urban and hiphop "Late Night with Monroe" show also beginning at 11 p.m.

The music formats had been alternating every other week for the past several months.

Club Beyond

Club Beyond and Club Beyond JV are designed for high school and middle school youth, respectively. These meetings include a Christian devotional and the three "F's" of youth ministry: food, fun and friends.

Club Beyond meets Sunday nights and CBJV meets Friday nights.

Both clubs meet from 7 to 9 Night format beginning at 11 p.m. p.m. in the basement of St. Mary's

The mission of Club Beyond and CBJV is to develop meaningful relationships with military dependent youth, to lead youth into relationships with Christians and with Christ, to help youth grow in Christian faith and to involve youth in Christian ser-

High School and Middle School students are invited to join in cleaning up the wetland wildlife habitat in Junction City April 27, for its dedication.

For more information, contact Don Ericson, Club Beyond Direc-238-4436 at dericson@nqks.com. You can check out Club Beyond on the

Child Safety

Child car seat inspections are available through Irwin Army Community Hospital's Community Health Nursing. Assistance with correct placement and positioning of your child's car seat and information are part of the inspection. Active duty uniform service members, their families, retired military, and DoD civilians are eligible for this service. There

Car Seat Inspection appointments are available Tuesday and IACH. This is the same location Thursday 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. Inspec- of the former General Surgery tions will take place in the IACH Clinic. parking area.

web at www.nqks.com/clubbe- tion please call Community Surgical Clinic by calling 239-

Health Nursing, at 239-7323.

Clinic Names Change

Irwin Army Community Hoscombined in February. Their clinic is identified as the Combined Surgical Clinic. Beneficiaries who are referred by their Primary Care Manager (PCM) to see a those concerned about gaining general surgeon or the dermatolo-Surgical Clinic, first floor of

For more information, benefi-To schedule a car seat inspec- ciaries may reach the Combined

7163.

Tobacco Cessation

New classes are forming to pital's General Surgery Clinic and kick that tobacco habit. Irwin the Dermatology Clinic were Army Community Hospital offers a four-week tobacco cessation program, which meets Wednesdays from 5-6 p.m. or Thursday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. For weight after kicking the tobacco gist are to go to the Combined habit, a dietician teaches participants healthy ways to avoid weight gain.

> Active duty uniform service members, their families, retired military, and DoD civilians may participate in the tobacco cessation program.

Call 239-7323 for information.

Soldier works hard, makes better life for her family

By Karen E. Hinkle

K-State Intern

In search of a better life for her on, SFC Jaynene Smith joined he Army with the support of her nother.

Smith, of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech.), found herself in ier mother's footsteps when she

pecame a single parent.

Despite the hardships she ndured, Smith knew she had to ollow her mother's encouragenent to pursue her dreams. Smith pecifically remembers one of her nother's sayings: "The only way ou truly fail is if you fail to try."

Familiar with the military hrough her high school involvenent in ROTC, Smith decided oining the Army was the only vay she could provide her son a etter life.

She enlisted on Aug. 16, 1998, nd temporarily gave up custody of her son to her mother who suported her decision.

Though she said that giving up



her son was one of the hardest things she's ever done, Smith never looked back. "I knew that I was making a better life for us," she said.

Smith's first duty station was Germany. She spent three years there and met her future husband.

Two years after they began dating, they married, and Smith's son back and forth before the marriage, and they now enjoy a wonderful relationship.

Since joining the Army, Smith has worked as an Equal Opportunity Noncommissioned Officer, become a member of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club and has become Battle Staff qualified.

Currently she manages communications security (COMSEC) throughout Fort Riley and is the senior telecommunications operator-maintainer for the G-6. She is also Master Fitness qualified and frequently helps administer physical training tests.

Fitness is one thing Smith takes very seriously.

If any soldier needs help passing the physical assessment, Smith offers help through her own physical fitness program.

Almost every afternoon she

heads to the gym to meet with her trainees.

She works alongside them to was able to return home. She said improve their physical abilities her husband and son wrote letters and enable them to meet the



Army's physical fitness requirements. But Smith isn't there just

"She's right there with them sweating," said CSM Clifton, 24th Inf. Div. (M). said CSM Mark

Smith not only helps get soldiers in shape, she also mentors young soldiers by providing career guidance and enhancing their social abilities. SSgt. Alicia James, 24th Inf. Div. (M), is one of those soldiers. She said that Smith's genuine care and concern for soldiers is her best quality.

"I would consider her topnotch for a female soldier," said James.

All these accomplishments might seem surprising for someone who admitted that she was "painfully shy," but Smith doesn't

appear to be ready to stop.

She has expressed interest in

attending airborne school sometime in the future and is working on earning her bachelor¹s degree Information Management through online college courses. What is the key to her success?

She says it comes down to following her mom's encouragement and setting attainable goals.

ANIMAL DOCTOR

2 x 4"

Clifton agrees that Smith has a bright future and predicts that she will attain the rank of sergeant

major.
"She's a first-class type of person, no doubt," he said.

Editor's Note: This month, the Fort Riley Post will highlight female soldiers recommended by their chains of command.

Black Only vaccation clinic

Post changes access hours at three gates

From Staff Reports

In an effort to better serve solliers who live in communities orthwest of the installation, post officials opened the Rifle Range Road and Estes Road gates to outound traffic from 4-6 p.m. durng duty days.

The gates will continue to be ppen to inbound traffic from 5-8 .m. weekdays to vehicles with Department of Defense registraion decals and Department of Defense or Department of the Army I.D. cards.

Additionally, the Grant Avenue gate is closed to incoming and outgoing traffic from 11 p.m.-5 .m. daily.

Department of Defense decaled rehicles can access Fort Riley rom Grant Avenue from 5 a.m.-1 p.m., using the right lane. Nonlecaled vehicles can enter the Frant Avenue gate from 8 a.m.-11 .m. using the left lane.

Access at Huebner Road near Jgden, Trooper Drive near Juncion City, Henry Road off I-70 and

12th Street off K-18 will continue the installation. to be open 24 hours a day. Deliv-Street entrance.

Each adult in the vehicle must have a valid photo ID.

required to show vehicle registration and proof of insurance and

Fort Riley soldiers make every ery vehicles must use the 12th effort to issue passes in a timely manner to allow visitors to reach their destinations on time. However, if the above conditions are Additionally, visitors are not met, vehicles will be denied access.

For everyone's safety, all vehimay undergo vehicle inspections cle drivers are reminded to use in order to obtain a pass to enter caution when entering the instal-

lation by keeping their speed at the posted level and observing all traffic signs.

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THE AMERICAN LEGION 1 x 1" Black Only no dance 16 march

PLAZA TANS 1 x 1.5"

Seminar hosted on Fort Riley

By Scott Price

Community Relations Officer

Last week the National Miliary Family Association hosted a ocus group on Fort Riley to letermine what the average miliary family member knows of the rganization and its purpose ccording to Kristy Hamby, one of the NMFA's focus group faciliators. The group also made suggestions on how the organization an do a better job getting their rganization's message out.

The Command Group here at Fort Riley has been very supportve of our efforts and have made is feel very welcome," Hamby aid. "We are thrilled by the high evel of participation we've eceived here from unit sergeants najor and first sergeants.'

Hamby, an Air Force spouse, aid the NMFA has been active or the past 32 years as an educaion and advocacy organization hat acts on behalf of military amilies. The organization nforms and educates service nembers and families on benefits nd policies that affect them.

The NMFA began its existence n 1969 as the National Military Vives Association she said. Cur-

care, childcare, spousal employment, former spouse equity, DOD Dependent Schools and Impact Aid issues and transition plans for force reduction. She added that 94 percent of the NMFA's 200-person work force has volunteered their time and talent on behalf of military families.

Hamby added that the association was here to recruit local representatives and to share information about the association and its mission. The training delivered to Fort Riley volunteers is designed to train the local representatives to serve as a conduit of information both to the military families and back to the organization, she said. Currently, 121 posts, bases and installations are represented in the

"I think this is a very important organization for soldiers and their families," said Kim Milano, who heads the 1st BCT's family support efforts. "I'm glad I came; this has been excellent training.

Shawni Sticca, whose husband is the first sergeant in Company A. 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, was impressed by the quality of the training she received during the seminar. "It's been awesome,"

rently the organization is actively she said. "I really didn't under- Riley has a long history of taking involved with military health stand what the National Military Family Association does for the soldier and families until now.

Sticca added that the NMFA gets involved at the local level also and "not just in the big picture." She added that she will take the information she gathered during the training back to her unit's Family Support Group.

"Now I am confident that if I don't know how or where to address an issue. I can call on some of the people in this seminar to get the right answer," she said.

Gloria Elder, Fort Riley's official NMFA representative said that the largest number of NMFA volunteers come from the Army however, the organization supports family issues that affect all seven uniformed services. According to Elder her job is to provide the group's national representatives feedback on numerous family issues.

"I provide liaison between the Fort Riley community and Washington," she explained.

"A great number of the issues can and are resolved at the installation level," Elder said. "Fort

care of its own and luckily, we do not generate many issues that Col. Pope and his staff can't solve."

She added that for her money the folks at NMFA don't "toot their own horn enough.'

"It is mind boggling to me that there are so many people out there that have never heard of them," Elder said.

"Once I learned about them and everything they do for all of us I decided to get involved and help them tell their story." Hamby said that that the orga-

have representatives at each post, installation and base across the military. These representatives serve as

nization's goal is to eventually

the "eyes and ears" of the associ-"It is the local representatives

who often bring shared local concerns to national attention," Hamby added.

For more information on volunteering for the NMFA you can contact them at www.nmfa.org or at volunteer@nmfa.org or by calling (703) 931-6632.

Battery holds family day

By Kevin Doheny

Staff Writer

Describing a soldier's duty to his country can sometimes by a difficult task.

Soldiers sometimes have a hard time to describing to their families and friends, what is it they do.

Whether it is field training, or simply common tasks, it is easier to show than to tell.

This was one of the reasons why Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, held a family day at the Close Combat Tactical Training facility Saturday.

Some of the highlights throughout the day were a potluck lunch, and the families "getting their hands dirty," inside some of the simulators by destroying a battalion of opposing forces.

The main purpose of the event was to expose the family to some of the training we do on a daily a daily basis," said Capt. Corey Gerving, batter commander. "The exposure would allow them to experience the level of training we receive and hopefully reassure them that we are properly trained to perform our wartime mission. It also served as a chance for the families in the unit to spend time together in a social setting."

Gerving said he came up with the idea, and tries to do things to "liven up" his unit's family readiness group meetings.

"We have gone bowling, and we plan on having a meeting at the Sunset Zoo," he said. "We also might be having one at the Fort Riley Pistol Range for some practical training in firearms if possi -

Gerving and other soldiers in the unit felt it important for their families to know about their jobs because they came away from the event with a better knowledge of his soldier's duties.

"It is important because I can now talk with my family and they will have an understanding about what I do," said PFC Adam

Army expands worldwide recreation options

t will add more rooms to its Armed Forces Recreation Center t Walt Disney World Resort and build a new hotel in the heart of 3avaria, Germany.

These projects, estimated at 3130 million, pose no cost to the axpayer. Construction is funded y revenues generated from the Army's four Armed Forces Recretion Centers and will include a commercial loan which will be epaid by the AFRCs. The AFRCs provide recreation opportunities or Defense Department personiel and their families.

"During a time when we are sking so much from our Armed

The Army has announced that of life issues become more important than ever," said Brig. Gen. Tony Taguba, commander of the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center. "These new additions offer us two very tangible ways to say 'thank you' to our military personnel, Defense Department civilians, and their families by offering them affordable, quality vacation destina-

> The new 330-room hotel in Garmisch, an hour south of Munich, Germany, at the foot of the Bavarian Alps, will replace the service offered by four older hotels currently operating in Chiemsee and Garmisch. The 65

modern hotel standards and are 1994, our occupancy rate has costly to operate.

"It's cheaper to build a new hotel than to renovate the existing properties," said Peter F. Isaacs, Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center in Alexandria. Va., which oversees the Armed Forces Recreation Centers.

In Orlando, Florida, Shades of Green at Walt Disney World Resort(r) has proven so popular that the Army is adding 299 guest rooms. The Army leased the 287room Disney Inn in 1993 and bought it in 1996.

"We've been turning away as many customers as we take," said orces and their families, quality year-old facilities are not built to Isaacs. "Ever since we opened in

been consistently at over 95 percent and lately as high as 99 percent. We just don't have enough rooms to satisfy the demand. That's why we're adding on.'

The Shades of Green hotel will close during the estimated 18 months of construction slated to begin in April.

Isaacs said keeping the hotel open during expansion would have a negative impact on guests and require costly and extraordi-

nary efforts to maintain security.
"By closing the hotel completely, we'll reduce construction time by six months and reduce the cost of the project by \$6 million," said Isaacs.

The newly expanded hotel is expected to re-open in September

In the meantime, a staff of AFRC representatives will continue operations in Orlando to assist military travelers to the Orlando area in finding other accommodations at comparable rates.

In addition to the Orlando and Garmisch sites. CESC also manages two other Armed Forces Recreation Centers for the Defense Department - the Dragon Hill Lodge in Yongsan, Korea, and the Hale Koa Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii, which has been in operation since 1975.

Catelog here March 30

DALLAS - The Baby Book Catelog is will be available world wide on March 30.

The Baby Book catalog has everything for newborns to toddlers. It is filled with brand name merchandise, such as Carter's, Gerber, Little Tikes, Evenflo, OshKosh and Laura Ashley. For mom, the catalog also offers maternity basics from Planet Motherhood.

To make shopping even easier, all exchange catalogs are now available online. During baby's naptime, you can log on at aafes.com, usmc-mccs.org, navy-

nex.com or cg-exchange.com.

Anyone with exchange privileges can order from this catalog through July, so be sure to pick-up a free copy at an exchange near

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ldiers who ASK receive preferred assignments

By Marcia Triggs

ARNEWS

WASHINGTON — Everyday about 1,000 soldiers tell their assignment managers where they want to be stationed, and with the help of modernized programs,

their wishes are being granted.
The Assignment Satisfaction Key was introduced to the Army Oct. 12, and it gives enlisted soldiers the capability to post assignment preferences directly onto the Total Army Personnel Database.

As of today 44,703 soldiers have logged onto http://www.perscom.army.mil providing personal contact data and listing prefer-

Army's goal is to get the entire population — 400,000 — to sign up within the next several months, said Sgt. Maj. Oscar Garcia, sergeant major for the Ordnance Corps career management branch

Along with ASK, assignment managers work with new software referred to as SAM - Soldier Assignment Module. The software merges Army requirements with the assignment preferences of soldiers, Garcia said.

For example, career management branches are periodically given requisitions for special assignment such as drill sergeant force integrator. "The sergeant onto SAM found out that there

ences for stateside, overseas and special-duty assignments. The software can identify qualified what was needed and what the soldier met was a slot for the soldier sprace and major [Garcia] had the insight of was a slot for the soldier sprace and what the soldier met candidates, with volunteers at the top of the list.

"By policy, we will always accept a volunteer over a non-volunteer," Garcia said.

The idea behind SAM came from Garcia, but the system was designed by a sergeant first class with years of personnel management experience.

personnel at my units. I would grade and MOS, then get replacements," said Sgt. 1st Class Vince him through the process. Marroquin, the Ordnance Branch

rules are for making an assignment. I know personnel and data-

agers make their decisions.' With this new technology, it couldn't get any easier for soldiers and assignment mangers, Garcia explained.

We had a soldier call up and "I've used databases to manage ask to go to Korea," Garcia said. "The career manager asked if he find out who was leaving, what had signed up with ASK. He had not. So the career manager talked

"Next the career manager went

the qualifications. Finally the assignment manager had the solbases issues, so we worked dier log back onto ASK, and at the together to help assignment man-bottom of the screen it showed bottom of the screen it showed that he was on orders to Korea." Now a soldier has a vote, Garcia said. It's immediately seen by his branch manager, and it counts, he said. Before a soldier can log onto ASK, they have to have an Army Knowledge Online account. ASK will require soldiers to select three stateside locations and three other preferences outside of the conti-

nental United States. if a soldier has to rotate or do a

special duty like drill sergeant c recruiter, this is the place or th duty he would prefer, Garcia saic The first two preference choice will be from the Army's 10 divi sions, because that's where sol

diers are needed most, he said. The other choice will be from an expanded listing which includes the divisional installa tions plus other CONUS installa

tions. Soldiers may also select thre CONUS and three OCONUS vol unteer locations.

Garcia said volunteer location mean that if a soldier were t Preference locations mean that move now, this is where he woul

AG goes online with new website

WASHINGTON — The Web ite of the Adjutant General of the Army has a new face to help urfers access information.

"TAGD Online is now availble to help "e-enable" the solsaid Lt. Col. Thomas H. 'almatier, the executive officer to The Adjutant General Directorate.

The site includes an easy to use A to Z" listing that takes users lirectly to the information they're ooking for. TAGD online is under onstant revision to make it easier or customers to use, he said.

Soldiers are encouraged to heck back often and provide suggestions for improvement.

The site can be accessed at ıttp://www.perscom.army.mil/tag

d/index.htm or through PER-SCOM Online at http://www.perscom.army.mil by clicking on The Adjutant General Directorate. TAGD Online is another example of Personnel Transformation, the heart of which officials said is to give soldiers more ways to easily get information and to manage their own careers through initiatives like the Assignment Satisfaction Key and Official Military

Personnel File Online The following subjects can be

found on TAGD online: Casualty Reporting Mortuary Affairs Casualty Assistance Repatriation PÔW/MIA

Security Clearance Adjudication Defense Integrated Human Resources System Army University Access OnLine

Montgomery GI Bill Education Benefits GI to Jobs COOLLoan Repayment Program Enlisted Records Enlisted Boards

SIDPERS *eMILPO* SuperServe Military Mail Promotions (all grades) Selection Boards (Officer, War-

ÓER/NCOER Appeals and Corrections Officer Records DA Secretariat

Awards Branch

Army Career and Alumni Program Retirements and Separations (all grades)

Leaves and Passes DEERS/RAPIDS Common Access Card TRICARE Dental Program Voting Naturalization of Non-Citizen Sol-

Gifts to the Army Retirement Services Army ECHOES Records Management MARKS Army Postal Declassification of Records Heraldic Services

Ribbons, Insignia, Flags, etc.

diers

Tax Center saves money

By Brian Underdahl

Installation Tax Attorney

The Fort Riley Tax Center is saving soldiers money everyday. The average soldier filing an IRS 1040EZ and a state income tax return would spend approximately \$120 on tax preparation fees. These tax preparation fees is money the soldier would have to spend with an off-post commercial tax preparer to get their taxes done. By having their taxes prepared for free at the Fort Riley Tax Center, soldiers save that money. For example, if the soldier is receiving a \$600 federal income tax refund, why spend \$120 or 20 percent of the refund on tax preparation fees?

The Fort Riley Tax Center electronically files federal income taxes

The Fort Riley Tax Center electronically files federal income taxes for the Fort Riley community everyday. On average, tax refunds are in the taxpayer's bank account within two weeks. You don't need to spend your tax refund on preparation fees before you even get it. When the Fort Riley Tax Center prepares your taxes, every penny of your refund is

yours.

The Fort Riley Tax Center is conveniently located on Custer Hill in Building 7826 and is open Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to

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Fort Riley Sports

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Page 9

i n g

Troopers take loss in final

By Kevin Doheny

Staff Writer

In a rivalry game, controlling emoion is usually the key to victory.

Not letting the emotion of playing rival, get the players out of their normal game, is a coach's challenge.
Sometimes, stupid fouls and mis-

akes are usually a team's demise. For some reason, in a rivalry game,

he crowd noise and intensity takes he players out of what they normally lo. The intensity of beating their rival becomes first, instead of playing at heir normal level.

Intensity was definitely in the air vhen the Fort Riley Middle School Troopers took on the Junction City Middle School Wildcats in their final same of the season and for second place in the 2002 FRMS basketball ournament.

The Troopers battled until the end. out mistakes cost them in a 40-36 loss o the Wildcats Saturday.

"Most of the mistakes were inforced," said Coach Vic Garcia. "It vas just a total lack of focus from vhat we normally do and personal igendas. Our kids just want to beat he JC kids so bad because they play vith those guys year round. Everyhing becomes one on one and not the eam against them."

Even with all the mistakes the Troopers made in the first half, the Vildcats equaled them in the urnover battle. The Troopers battled o keep the score even at halftime, but he Wildcats hit a three-point basket is the clock ran down and the Wildats took a three-point lead into the intermission.

defeat to the Emporia Vikings, the Troopers kept making mistake after mistake in the second half. The Wildcats were more physical, and were able to control the rebounds and force

"As bad as it is to say, we are a well. finesse team," Garcia said. "Even mile." with higher skilled players, when a team beats and bangs us, we seem to get out of what we try to do during

the game."
"We played out of character in both games we lost in the tournament," he said. "You just can't do that this late in the season. We just didn't rise to the occasion.' With the score 31-22 going into the

final period, the Troopers made valiant efforts to get back into the game, but eventually the emotion and mistakes led to their demise.

Even a last-ditch effort to find ways to get even wasn't enough. The Wildcats hit free throws late in the game to seal their victory.

"I can live with losing when we play our best. If a team out plays us, then defeat isn't so tough," he said. "I told the kids the only team who can beat us is ourselves, and that is exactly what happened."

Garcia said even though his team lost their final game, he is still proud of the kids and of the job they did during the season.

"In terms of our record, this was our best record ever," Garcia said. 'We didn't play as a team enough as I would have liked, but overall I'm very happy with our performance this

Garcia also said he is very appre-Just as they did in their previous ciative of the parental support this season. He is very thankful of how they showed up to the games and gave his players their support.

"For example, during the tournament, they put signs up, not for just our team, but for the other schools as well. Our parents went the extra

As the Troopers wrapped up their season Saturday, it was a disappointing end to the season, but the season as a whole wasn't. They finished the year with a record of 13-3.



Harry Williams swats a shot away during the Troopers loss to the Wildcats Saturday.

Eastern woodrats can cause damage

By Alan Hynek

es head to

Fish and Wildlife Administrator

Although rarely seen, their presence is mistakable. The telltale lodge unmistakable. announces the presence of a truly interesting animal. The eastern woodrat (Neotoma floridana) is a large rodent that is mouse like in appearance. In general it has little semblance of the old world rats like the Norway rat and black rat. Although generally associated with trees, they can be found in a variety of places including old barns, garages and other outbuildings. Woodrats are almost exclusively herbivorous, with a diet of twigs, buds leaves and roots. They do not drink water, since they are capable of obtaining enough moisture from their solid food. As adults, they can

grow lengths On the Wildside: 14-17 inch-

tail. Females can have one to two litters between February and September, with an average nest size of four. Their average lifespan is three years, which is fairly long

The eastern woodrat builds their nest mostly out of dry twigs, leaves, bark, bones, dried grasses and really just about anything they can carry. You can find a wide variety of items from tin cans, shotgun shells and jewelry in their nest. However, woodrats appear to have a preference for shiny objects. They are sometimes referred to as the trader rat since they will lay down whatever they are carrying and pick up a more attractive object. They will occasionally leave a stone in place of whatever they take.

Within their lodge is a series of chambers lined with soft material such as shredded bark, which is used for rearing young. Other chambers include areas for food storage, feeding and for depositing feces. Most lodges also include a series of underground tunnels used for escape and for cold weather habitation.

As a pest, the pack rat can cause major damage. They can be an important factor in transmission of disease and can become a major nuisance when they decide to take up residence in a building or vehicle. Woodrats are particularly fond of electrical wiring. They can easily shred all of the wires under a hood of car in a short amount of time. If you have a vehicle that goes unused for weeks at a time, and you live near a wooded area, it would be wise to occasionally check under the hood for any

The preferred method for control in and around buildings is exclusion and trapping.

News About Nature

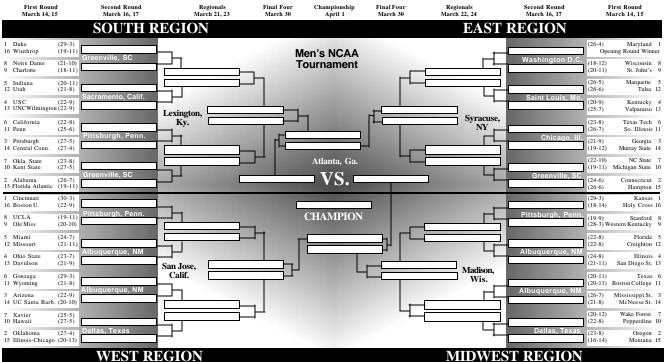
ventative measures to keep all rodents out of building is the best course of action. However, if wood rats are already present, they can be easily caught in live traps using dried fruit, apples, peanut butter or nut meats.

Woodrats are classified as huntable nongame animals, which means a hunting license is required. In most states, including Kansas, they can be controlled without hunting license when they threaten or damage property.

There is some lore tied the pack rat, mostly in association with the weather. The one I have heard most often is when pack rats build their nests up high, we will experience a lot of snow that winter.

I don't think there is much too this though as there seems to be quite a variety in heights in any given winter. Either that or they are not able to forecast the weather any better than us.

Men's West Region toughest road for Final Four



First Round March 15, 16 Regionals March 23, 25 WEST REGION MIDEAST REGION (33-0) Women's NCAA Pepperdine Villanova (26-5) (24-9) (23-7) Boston College 5 (18-11) Mississippi State 12 (18-11) Texas Tech* 4 (24-5) Stephen F. Austin 13 Milwaukee Boise, Idaho (17-11 Santa Clara 11 Colorado* 3 Southern U. 14 21-9) 26-4) 7 Old Domin 10 Georgia Colorado State 7 Tulane 10 VS. Duke* 1 Norfolk State 16 16 Oakland (27-6) (17-3) (27-3) CHAMPION (17-13) 5 Minnes 12 UNLV (21-7) (23-7) Raleigh, NC

By Kevin Doheny

Staff Writer

March Madness! The Big Dance!

This is one of the best times of the year. I remember as a kid during this time, I would take my stepsis-

ter's hand-held television and sneak it into my classes when I was in school. I started doing it when I was in the 6th grade. I can remember paying just enough attention to the teacher, so

she couldn't see me looking at my little TV. I kept the volume turned down and the TV tucked underneath my desk. That's what March Madness is all about. It's about not wanting

to miss one second of the constant action, which is the tournament's biggest asset. Even though the 15 and 16 seeds usually, get beat up pretty bad

in their first round games, people still stay glued to the television because the players from those schools play with the hearts on their

Yesterday, the 2002 NCAA Basketball Tournament kicked off with teams scrambling for one common goal, a national champi-

In the men's bracket, there are three good brackets, and one extremely good one. I don't know how the Tournament Committee put six conference champions in the same bracket (West), but they

Think about this, Duke, Kansas and Maryland have pretty easy roads to the Final Four in Atlanta. But, the teams fighting for the West Region will be so beat up by the time they get to the Final Four, they might not play to their potential.

Cincinnati, Oklahoma, Arizona, Gonzaga, Ohio State and UCLA are all in the same bracket. Don't worry. I have no clue who is going to win out West either!

It bothers me to see how easy of a road the other three top seeds have. For Duke, who has the easiest road of all, the toughest opponent would be a possible match-up with USC in the Sweet 16. For Maryland and Kansas, their toughest game might come in the second when the Terrapins possibly play Wisconsin, and the Jayhawks possibly play Western Kentucky.

My predictions are Kansas, Duke, Maryland and Arizona will be in the Final Four.

In the women's bracket, it just might be one team against the rest of the country.

The University of Connecticut is 33-0, and look to roll on to their second undefeated season in seven years, and the national

Coach Geno Auriemma has his Lady Huskies on top where they have stayed all year long. They grabbed the number one seed out in the Mideast. Oklahoma is the top dog out West. Duke in the East,

and Vanderbilt in the Midwest. In the Mideast bracket, The Kansas State Wildcats host their first and possible second round games at Bramlage Coliseum. The

A controlled fire was set Wednesday near Colyer Manor. The fire was contained so the houses at Colyer Manor wouldn't be affected in any way. The burns are conducted every year.

Burning prairie necessary for healthy environment

By Jerold Spohn

Conservation Division, DES

It's March. Spring is in the air, or at least right around the corner. And, a prairie land manager's fancy urns to . . . fire.

Spring in the native tallgrass rairie region means prescribed ourning. That is, using fire as a tool o manage the vegetation. In the oming weeks, DPW Fire and Emergency Services Division and DES Conservation Division peronnel will be conducting precribed burns in many parts of the nstallation.

Fire has played an important role n the development and mainteance of the tallgrass prairie region of Kansas. Historically, lightening trikes during spring and summer hunderstorms caused wildfires. These fires would burn hundreds of housands of acres yearly. Fire kept he plants in the region in balance vith each other. The fires also prorided improved grazing areas for he native wildlife of the area, ncluding buffalo, deer, and elk.

When European cultures settled he area, these wildfires were supressed. However, fire suppression aused reduced prairie health and n increase of undesirable woody lants.

Research started in the early 930's at Kansas State University hows that fire benefits the tallgrass rairie region, which includes Fort training lands.

THE OUTLET

pick up 2/22/02

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research continues today at locations like the Konza Prairie, located 10 miles east of Fort Riley along I-70. Through this ongoing research tallgrass prairie managers have learned to use prescribed fire as a tool in the management of our region.

Properly timed prescribed burns continue to provide many benefits to the prairie. First and foremost of those on Fort Riley is troop safety. Military training activities can and do cause wildfires and, if sufficient fuel exists, those wildfires can endanger troops and equipment.

Prescribed burning removes excess fuel, lessening the frequency and intensity of wildfires. Secondary benefits are improvement of vegetation communities for wildlife habitat and hay harvesting and reduction of soil erosion through invigoration of the grass.

During the prescribed burning season, soldiers should remember a few simple rules to keep themselves safe while in the field. Complying with the following rules ensures troop safety as well as productive prescribed burning operations.

* Make certain that you are scheduled for the training or maneuver area you plan to occupy. Only Range Control can authorize access to training or maneuver

* Stay in your scheduled training or maneuver area. Do not move to an area not scheduled for your use without authorization from Range

The "Free Use" (a.k.a. Sergeant's Time) training areas will be closed for short periods to allow prescribed burning to be conducted. Tentative dates for burning those areas will be announced in a forthcoming range bulletin.

* Properly open, close and maintain FM radio communications with Range Control at all times while occupying training/maneuver areas. This allows Range Control to inform you if a wildfire is approaching your area.

Know your location (6 digit grid coordinate) so that you can report it to Range Control in the event of an emergency.

* If you see smoke, send someone to investigate. This is particularly important when the smoke is upwind of your position.

If the smoke is coming from an unattended wildfire, report its location to Range Control. If it is com-

ing from a supervised, prescribed burn, locate the team conducting the burn and notify them of your unit's location. They will give you instructions to keep your unit safe.

* Cooperate with prescribed burn crews. If you are told to move your unit's personnel and equipment, do so ASAP!

Also, provide any assistance you can if burn crews are fighting wildfires, but do so only at the request or approval of the burn

* Use extreme caution when driving through smoke. Turn on lights and slow down.

Be safe! Make certain that all personnel in the field are aware of and follow these rules.

If you have questions regarding Fort Riley's prescribed burning program, call the DES Conserva tion Division office at 239-6211.

Big Dance continued from page 9

tough game for the Wildcats, but with the Big 12 as tough as it is, they would definitely be battle tested.

My predictions are UCONN, Tennessee, Baylor and Oklahoma.

Making predictions for the NCAA tournament are about as easy as predicting the weather here in Kansas. If it were easy, then everybody would win their office pools.

Sit back and enjoy the games. Let the passion of college basketball and all it has to offer, be your entertainment until a champion is crowned.

CRUM'S 2 x 2"

Black Only March Specials

A Fort Riley firefighter pulls a water hose from a vehicle as the blaze burns behind him. The firefighter used different methods to control the fire.

OZ INC. 2 x 3" Black Only Club Alibi

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GEARY REHABILITATION CENTER 2 x 5" Black Only Burn fat Cardio Kickboxing

U.S. OPTICAL 2 x 5" Black Only pick up from feb 27

SALINA POWERSPORTS 2 x 7" Black Only Hop on a Katana collect a rewa



Fort Riley Community

February 15, 2001

Proudly serving the Home of America's Army

Page 11

E







Pride of the prairie

Come take a look at us now

The public-at-large is invited to step within the boundaries of America's Army, June military targets 1 for Fort Riley's Open House. The free event will demonstrate what the Army and Fort Riley do for the nation, community and its citizens. Fort Riley's primary mission is to fight and win America's wars.

Main Attractions

"Own the Night" - Interactive Night Vision Exhibit Wear night vision goggles

while entering a darkened world complete with obstacles, map reading challenges and observation points

Simulated Battle Engagement

-Enter the Close Combat Tactical Trainer and man an M1 Abrams and M2 Bradley weapons system

-Engage in simulated battle

Weapons Firing Course -Fire blank ammunition at

-Use the Army's laser

ing skills

Tactical vehicle, aircraft and weapons displays

-Interactive displays of military vehicles and equipment

Air Force Flyover

-Combat aircraft flyovers throughout the day

Emergency Equipment Displays

-Police response teams -Military working dogs -Kansas Highway Patrol rollover

-Bomb disposal robotics -Fire rescue

Kid's activities

-Carnival rides -Pony rides

-Mini-obstacle course

Fort Riley Honor Guard

-Living history mid-1800s engagement system to test fir- cavalry encampment -Demonstrations of equestri-

an skills and saber drills

Tours of Fort Riley's **Historic District**

-Self-guided walking tour of historic Main Post

-U.S. Cavalry Museum

-Custer House -Ribbon cutting of the Con-

stabulary Museum -Outdoor historic vehicle display

Expo Hall featuring a

look at... -Soldier training and readi-

-Support links for soldiers

and their families

-Diverse quality of life programs and activities

-Community partnership agencies

Concessions

-Variety of food and beverages throughout post

-Fest Tent

-Face Painting -Souvenirs

Recruiters

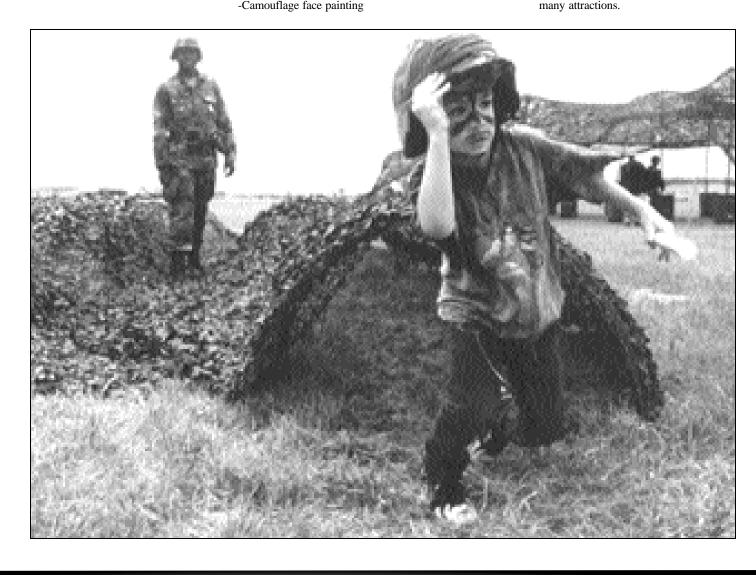
-Active, Army Reserve, National Guard and ROTC

-Interactive displays and attractions

Veterans Tent

A Veterans' Tent with displays depicting WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm will be available near the U.S. Cavalry Museum.

Parking will be available at Marshall Army Air Field, exit 301 off I-70. Shuttle buses will continuously transport visitors to and from the parking area and the Expo Center and to and from the Tactical Trainer Center on Custer Hill. Visitors can walk historic Main Post to the many attractions.



Information, Ticketing and Reservations

Information, Ticketing & Registration s located in the Leisure Travel Center, 3ldg. 6918 (across from the PX) and has surrent information and tickets to surounding area attractions, dinner theater, oncerts, stage productions and movie heatres. Before making vacation plans, heck out the maps and travel brochures rom across the U.S. ITR also assists in roup travel plans.

Active/retired military, Department of Army Civilians and family members are uthorized to use the ITR Office for

Oldies 98.5's Rock 'N Roll Revival IV—Certainly the music is some of the most memorable from the 50/60s era and some of the most popular stars of the era are coming to Salina. Bobby Vee, The Contours, Jewel Akens', Don & Juan & Kathy Young brings Rock N Roll to the Bicentennial Center April 13. Tickets are now available through ITR.

Discount Movie Tickets are available for Carmike Theater in Manhattan and Westside Twin in Junction City at dis-

ly rated as one of the most exciting mountain resorts in the country. Visitors can choose from outstanding fine cuisine restaurants, cozy bistros, and outrageous dance clubs. With over 200 shops, art galleries, and restaurants, Breckenridge offers something for everyone. ITR will assist you with "Ski Colorado" packaging for Winter Park, Keystone/Breckenridge, Sol Vista Golf & Ski Ranch and Vail. Discounted military lift tickets are now available.

Armed Forces Vacation Club-

ticket and tour office managers learned Line, Holland America, Royal Caribbean about cruising as a vacation option. Cruise Line International Association conducted the training, CLIA represents all companies that form the world-wide cruise industry. The 40 hours of training included lec-

tures, video presentations, class discussions and tests. Seventeen Army managers earned their CLIA certification as accredited cruise counselors, which will allow them to sell cruises to members of their military communities from their

and Disney Cruises. Or make an appointment with Teresa at 239-5614/4415 and plan your next get-a-way.

Sol Vista Golf and Ski Ranch—Set high in the Colorado Rockies, Sol Vista Golf and Ski Ranch evokes the kind of Western charm and small-town friendliness that our guests truly cherish. Sol Vista has Colorado's second-largest night skiing acreage. T

here's more to winter at Sol Vista than just skiing! They have a wide array of



March 15, 2002

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DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT AND 2 x 10"
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CLASS

Information needs protecting

Townhall Message:

By Col. Philip Pope

What is Information Assurance IA)? By Department of Defense lefinition, it is the information perations that protect and defend nformation and information sysems by ensuring the availability, ntegrity, authentication, confilentiality, and non-repudiation.

Most of the time that we use he term information assurance, Army people think in terms of nilitary information systems nilitary computers and the data hey contain. But the definition alks about protecting and defendng all information, and this is vhere IA comes into play in your laily life.

For example, you go into a describes ocal video store to rent a video. You produce your card and they un it through their machine and roduce a rental order for you to ign. They then ask to see your icense and place that license number on the same form. Now, inless you made a request when ou were issued your Kansas dri-'er's license, that number on your icense and the one just copied lown is your social security numer. (NOTE: An out-of-state dri-'er's license may or may not use he social security number, lepending on the state of issue.) Now here is a piece of paper conaining both your name and social ecurity number, and you probaoly think nothing of just throwing

That's not following good information assurance - it can destroy the integrity and confidentiality of your data, because, with your name and social security, combined with your address and telephone number out of the phone book, a person can start putting together a profile on you that could lead to the theft, or impersonation, of your identity.

If you don't think this can happen, check out the March 5, 2002 shared with others.

front-page story in The Topeka Capital-Journal. The story

Garrison Commander a Topeka woman who recently received a call from an out-ofstate collection agency asking about an unpaid bill. It was only then that she suspected someone was using her identity and making

purchases in her name. While many financial institutions limit the amount of liability for debts incurred by others, there is the potential for a great impact on your credit ratings. Victims of identity theft have reported prob-lems with "bounced checks, loan denials, credit card application rejections and debt collection harassment" according to a recent GAO study. And then there is the time and effort trying to get things straightened-out and back to where they were.

To avoid becoming a victim of identity theft, take the following precautions (http://www.ink.org/public/ksag/c ontents/consumer/IDtheft.htm)

* Be stingy with your personal information.

Find out before you reveal any personal information to another person exactly why that information is needed, how it will be used, and whether it will be

> Never have your social security numbers on your checks.

* Minimize the mander identifying information that you carry with you.

Do not mail your bills from your mailbox and put the red flag up. Pick up your mail from your mailbox as quickly as possible after delivery.

* Pay close attention to your bills and credit card statements.

* Order your credit report at least once a year from the three credit reporting agencies.

You may be charged for a copy of the report (Equifax, 1-800-685-1111; Experian, 1-888-397-3742; and Trans Union, 1-800-916-

Watch your trash. Shred old bills, unwanted credit card solicitations, credit card receipts, and insurance or other medical information that you no longer need.

If you are a victim of identity theft, do these four things immediately:

1. Contact the fraud departments of each of the three major credit reporting agencies listed above and report that your identity has been stolen.

Ask that a "fraud alert" be placed in your file, as well as a victim's statement asking that creditors call you before opening any new accounts or changing your existing accounts.

2. For any accounts that have been fraudulently accessed or opened, contact the security departments of the appropriate creditors or financial institutions.

Close these accounts and put passwords (not your mother's maiden name) on any new accounts you open.

3. File a report with your local olice or the police where the identity theft took place.

Get a copy of the report in case the bank, credit card company, or others need proof of the crime later on.

4. Contact my Consumer Protection Division and the FTC's Identity Theft Clearinghouse at 1-877-ID-THEFT.

The Clearinghouse also may be accessed www.consumergov.com.

For more information, visit: www.consumer.gov/idtheft/index.

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Self help course scheduled

equired to have an NCO and hree school trained members on heir Self-Help Team?

These teams are an essential part of the Installation's facility naintenance team.

They free Public Works imployees to work on those epairs that only they can do. Public Works Self-Help School an help units establish a good Self-Help Program.

The course is scheduled every nonth and the next classes are cheduled for April 8 and May

For more information visit the 'W web site or call 239-3757. The course is taught in conjuncion with Barton Community Colege and provides soldiers the

JENNIFER TAYLOR 1 x 2" Black Only st pat rhytm

WALLACE THEATER CORP 1 x 3" Black Only new times'

Did you know that every unit is opportunity to obtain advanced education credits.

The Self-Help course also incorporates the Installation's Energy Conservation class, which is taught on the Thursday afternoon at 1 p.m. the week of the Self-Help Class

You do not have to attend the Self-Help class to come to the

Energy Class. Energy Officers/NCOs.

To enroll a soldier, the unit needs to submit a request for on- days.

MURDOCK MOTORS

0% APR on all Mitsubishis

Black Only

post school space to the Self-Help chool. The school is located on Main Post in Bldg. 307, on the corner of Holbrook and Carter Ave., on the upper floor.

The hours of operation for the school are from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.
They are closed on federal hol-

idays and training holidays.

If you need to pick-up Self-This class is mandatory for Help supplies the Troop Self-Help supplies the Troop Self-Help Store is open from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The store is closed on all federal holiFill

CASS COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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